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September 20, 2008

Cities take steps to help feed needy

Jeffersonville is reviewing response

By Ben Zion Hershberg

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With electricity rapidly being restored to most homes and businesses in Jeffersonville, Mayor Tom Galligan said yesterday that city officials will start analyzing their response to Sunday's windstorm to see what can be improved.

Already, Galligan said, he has decided to have generators installed at firehouses so they can serve as command centers in such disasters. Firehouses also could become places for residents to cook food and meet other immediate needs, he said.

To date, Galligan estimated at a press conference, the city has spent about \$100,000 on cleaning up downed trees and other debris. He said he didn't know yet where the money to pay such expenses will come from in a tight budget.

"We will get the mess cleaned up and talk about the money later," he said.

Joe Wainscott, executive director of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, said during a visit to Jeffersonville on Wednesday that it's possible the federal government eventually will reimburse 75 percent of such expenses by public agencies.

Wainscott asked local agencies to be diligent about collecting and reporting expenses and warned them to maintain their usual practices in hiring contractors to help with cleanup, including getting at least three bids, since the federal government likes to see such procedures even if the process is accelerated during an emergency.

Jeffersonville City Councilmen Keith Fetz and Ron Grooms said yesterday in telephone interviews they're trying to find a way to provide emergency aid to low-income families in the city who lost their perishable food during the power outage and may have a difficult time replacing it.

Fetz said the idea is to use gaming revenue that the city gets as its share of state funds collected from Indiana's riverboat casinos.

To help the estimated 4,000 low-income households in the city, Fetz said, up to \$400,000 might be available in vouchers that could be used at food stores. One voucher per household could be used for such staples as bread, milk and meat, he said.

"It is a very preliminary idea," Grooms said.

He said he doesn't know how it will be received by other council members, but he and Fetz hope to present it if there's support at a budget workshop Monday.

In Charlestown, Mayor Bob Hall said the City Council took a similar step, approving the use of up to \$20,000 for vouchers for city residents who needed emergency assistance.

The vouchers were distributed at Jonathan Jennings Elementary School, which has been used as a daytime shelter and where meals have been provided to hundreds of residents this week.

Little of that money is still available, Hall said. But a truckload-plus of groceries is to be delivered today for distribution at the school from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hall said the food is being contributed by the North Clark Ministerial Association and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to which he belongs.

Hall said he believes the groceries will sustain the city's neediest residents until they can get back on their feet.

Sunday's windstorm left up to 85 percent of Charlestown without power. But given the progress in restoring electricity, Hall said yesterday, he was lifting the local state of emergency and curfew that had been in effect through the week.

Reporter Ben Zion Hershberg can be reached at (812) 949-4032.

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Food drive for southern Indiana continues today

Special to the Tribune-Star

September 20, 2008 05:49 pm

— Terre Haute Ministries and Wabash Valley Long Term Disaster Recovery Coalition are working with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security to help the citizens of Floyd County. They have been without power since the storms caused by Hurricane Ike ripped through several counties in Indiana.

The citizens are in immediate need of nonperishable food items. A food drive continues today at Maryland Community Church from noon to 7 p.m. Food items should be brought to the back of the building through the gymnasium entrance. Signs will be posted at entrances.

“As first responders, we are here to protect and provide for our citizens. District 7 is at a stage in the flood recovery process where we can help beyond our district and assist Floyd County with items such as nonperishable food. We would encourage everyone to work together to do everything possible to help Indiana families through the process and help them to recover,” said Melissa Buell, Indiana District 7 Task Force director.

“Due to our community being affected by recent natural disasters, this should cause us to react with great compassion in assisting our neighbors to the south in this great time of need, helping to minimize their suffering in this time of devastation,” said Honnalora Hubbard, director of Terre Haute Ministries. “There is an entire community facing a time of need. Others helped us during our most difficult moments. Will we do the same?”

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Anderson apartment may be deemed unsafe

Posted: Sep 18, 2008 02:28 PM EDT

ANDERSON, Ind. (The Herald Bulletin) - Between 40 and 60 residents of a downtown Anderson apartment building may be forced to leave their homes because city officials believe the structure is unsafe.

City officials were preparing to remove residents of Tower Place Apartments, 1109 Jackson St., on Wednesday, parking a Madison County Emergency Management Agency bus in a nearby parking lot. Instead, the decision was made to give representatives with Pinnacle, the company that manages the property, until Friday to fix problems with the building's elevator and fire alarm system, said Michael Widing, Anderson building commissioner.

"We've given them plenty of time," Widing said. "We're trying to come up with a proactive plan to deal with these residents because the fire alarm won't reinitiate."

Residents were to be given temporary lodging in The Wigwam, Widing said. And problems with the building's elevators and fire alarm system have been ongoing, he said.

When two people became entrapped in an elevator at about 2:30 p.m., Widing said, it was time to take action. He said representatives with Pinnacle, which also manages Autumn Ridge Apartments and Courtyard Apartments in Anderson, have ignored previous correspondence to fix the problems.

"It all came to a head with people getting trapped," Widing said. "I was poised to and ready to vacate the building. Our concern is the volume of senior citizens and not wanting to put any undue hardship on them."

Anderson Fire Department Battalion Chief Jerry Quire said the two people trapped in the elevator earlier in the day were freed by residents before firefighters arrived. He said three firefighters were expected to be stationed in shifts at the property overnight to provide a "fire watch" in case fire broke out. He said providing an emergency fire watch was allowable alternative under state law.

"It's a building we've been dealing with for years," Quire said. "They don't seem to want to fix it, and I can't compromise safety."

Widing said the building would be inspected again Friday morning. He said city officials were working with the Red Cross to find housing for residents if the structure was deemed unsafe then.

"We've got to resolve the issue, is the bottom line," Widing said.

A property manager for the building no longer lives on site. Shoshana Strong-Williams, property manager for Autumn Ridge, was called to the scene. She declined comment, and officials with

Seattle-based Pinnacle couldn't be reached for comment.

The building is owned by Seattle-based Cascade Affordable Housing LLC, and affiliated with Pinnacle. Officials with Cascade did not return messages.

The 12-story building has about 40 rent-subsidized apartments for those 55 and older or disabled. Construction of the former Tower Hotel was completed in 1930; it was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1997, according to Emporis, an online provider of building data. It was turned into apartments in the 1940s, but closed in 1986 after a fire. Its current renovation was completed in 1999, according to previously published reports.

Residents seemed undisturbed by Wednesday's commotion, which brought a pair of ambulances and several police and fire vehicles to the 1100 block of Jackson. Officials with the Indiana State Fire Marshal's Office were also called to the scene. No residents were injured.

"I've been here the longest of anyone," said Dan Sayers, 81, a resident since July 1999.

"It's just another day," he continued, standing in some shade near The Herald Bulletin building next door. "At my age, I always look for tomorrow and not worry about today."

What's next?

Residents at Tower Place Apartments, 1109 Jackson St., Anderson, will be forced from their homes if the building's owner and property management company don't fix safety concerns. City officials will inspect the building again Friday morning.

Report by Shawn McGrath from WISH-TV news gathering partner [The Herald Bulletin](#).

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September 22, 2008

Fire chief: No one died in fire

By **RICK YENCER**

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MUNCIE -- More than 17 hours after firefighters were called to a blaze that destroyed a downtown apartment building, officials confirmed that, miraculously, no one had died in the fire.

"Everyone is accounted for," Fire Chief Eric Wilson said, reporting no fatalities among the more than 50 residents just before 1 p.m. Sunday.

Four Muncie fire companies were still on the scene 24 hours after the first call, putting out hot spots after the roof had collapsed into the first floor of Thomas Apartments.

"Since the roof collapsed, it trapped some of the heat," said Battalion Chief Paul Sykes. Firefighters had continued to fight hot spots throughout Sunday.

Sykes said firefighters would remain on the scene into Monday morning while Muncie police Sgt. Brad Arey said police officers would secure the building.

When the fire was at its peak late Saturday, a firefighter and a police officer were treated at the emergency room along with a handful of tenants, while public safety workers searched and rescued as many a dozen residents in the building before the fire engulfed it.

'Definitely an aerial fire'

Daniel D. Williams was among the last tenants accounted for by property managers for Muncie Properties, which owns and operates the historic building at 316 N. Mulberry St., about a block east of Muncie City Hall.

"I stayed at my cousin's," said Williams, who had only the clothes he wore and a borrowed bike.

Williams, who is disabled, was in his apartment Saturday night when smoke alarms went off. Going into the hallway to find it filled with thick smoke, he knocked on doors and got as many people as he could out the front door just as the first fire truck arrived.

Firefighter Kelly Morey was part of the second crew going into the building to attack the blaze, which reportedly started on a couch in a second floor unit, according to apartment managers.

"When we went to the apartment, it was fully engulfed in flames," said Morey.

As another fire crew put water on the second floor fire, Morey and fire Lt. Larry Delk went to the third floor to see if the fire had broken through, and saw the floor start to buckle. Firefighters pulled out,

and the third floor eventually collapsed, leaving firefighters to battle the fire from aerial units.

"This was definitely an aerial fire," Wilson said.

Morey was treated at Ball Memorial Hospital, after concerns arose about him being overcome by the heat. Muncie Police Department patrol officer James Lennox was treated for smoke inhalation. A handful of residents also were checked out in the emergency room, but fire officials reported no injuries among them.

'The fire had a huge start'

Battalion Chief Brian Manship was in charge of the scene for 12 hours after the fire call first came in at 7:19 p.m.

Firefighters had to rescue as many as four people from upper-floor windows while trying to get the fire under control from the second floor.

"The fire had a huge start by the time we got there," said Manship, who within half an hour had called for every Muncie fire crew on duty except the Hoyt Avenue station in south Muncie.

Manship said firefighters encountered heavy smoke and fire coming from the third floor. The first hour also was hectic with rescues and trying to account for more than a dozen people from the building who could not immediately be located. Early concerns that some people might have died later turned out not to be the case.

Delaware County Coroner James Clevenger Jr. was never notified of any possible death at the scene. "If we don't end up with a fatality, it will be a miracle," he said on Sunday.

A dozen extra firefighters were called in to supplement the 26 firefighters at the scene, with Center Township volunteers standing by in the city hall parking lot with a third aerial truck. Muncie police also assisted with rescues and helped secure the scene.

Still there Sunday

Within four hours, the fire was under control, Manship said, but fire crews continued to put water on the blaze well into Sunday afternoon because heavy timbers and other wood inside the old building continued to smolder. Four fire crews remained on the scene Sunday night.

David Miller, Muncie fire investigator, was joined by federal Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agent Mike Vergon, and Rick Constable, a representative of the Indiana Fire Marshall's office, to investigate what started the fire.

"This might take some time," said Miller, who declined to speculate on the possible cause.

Wilma Batten, who helps manage the apartments, said the fire started on a couch in a second floor apartment. She declined to identify the tenant, but said he had cooperated with authorities.

Wilson would not confirm that authorities had spoken with a tenant, saying investigators were still gathering information.

Miller said the apartment's windows were open and created a draft to feed the fire. The building,

which was converted into apartments in the 1920s, also had an old incinerator with a chute and what appeared to be false ceilings where fire ran through the building.

"There's a huge fire load in there," said Miller, referring to wooden timbers and plenty of openings where fire could go. "Once it gets started, it cannot wait to get consumed."

After a first-floor search Sunday morning, Wilson said firefighters were able to confirm that the last tenants not accounted for, a woman and her child, were not in their locked apartment. Property managers said they were able to contact the tenant, who was away for the weekend, along with all other residents.

Badly damaged

The east side of the building was so badly damaged that Wilson said it was structurally unsound to allow any further search by firefighters until the building was checked by structural engineers.

Scott Stonebraker, who owns Muncie Properties, was on the scene Sunday and said it was too early to say what he might do with the building. He was talking Sunday afternoon with fire and building officials about how soon the outer walls could be secured or knocked down to make sure surrounding structures were safe.

"You always worry about the people who you cannot find," said Stonebraker, expressing concerns about the tenants. He said he doubted that the building could be salvaged.

Wilson believed the building was totally destroyed given the heavy fire damage and the collapsed floors.

Electrical power was still out in a two-block radius of the apartment building Sunday evening. Firefighters also evacuated a neighboring apartment building at 312 N. Mulberry St. as a precaution.

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NW Indiana roads open after high water recedes **But power was still off Thursday for more than 67,000 Hoosier customers.**

State highway officials said Interstate 80/94 in northwestern Indiana reopened Thursday evening after being closed since the weekend by flooding from Hurricane Ike's remnants.

Crews had hoped to reopen the major route to the Chicago area by midday, but receding waters washed back onto the lanes, delaying the reopening, said Joshua Bingham, a spokesman for the Indiana Department of Transportation.

Four miles of I-80/94 from the Illinois state line to State Road 51 had been closed since torrential rains flooded sections of its lanes over the weekend.

INDOT also reopened Interstate 65 northbound, which was closed at U.S. 24 to ease traffic headed into northwestern Indiana.

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security reported Thursday afternoon that more than 67,000 customers remained without power, including customers of Duke, Vectren and rural electric providers. About 1,880 people near Corydon and Seymour were without phone service.

Homeland Security said that Harrison REMC informed the state that sections of Floyd County may not have power restored until Wednesday.

In adjacent Clark County, a Jeffersonville middle school was opened Wednesday to offer meals and showers to residents without power. Anna Glenn brought her daughters — Xondrais, 3, and Kyrianna, 1 — to River Valley Middle School on Wednesday.

"It's awesome they have opened this up," Glenn said. "It's hard not having anything cold to drink and nothing hot to eat. We've been eating snack foods."

Joe Wainscott, executive director of state Homeland Security, visited the school Wednesday. He noted that the state was hit by flooding in June and now it's dealing with flooding in northern Indiana and wind damage in southern Indiana caused by Ike's remains.

"Mother Nature has been hard on us in Indiana," Wainscott said.

Flooding persisted Thursday in parts of northern Indiana, prompting Indiana University Northwest in Gary to cancel classes for a fourth consecutive day.

Floodwaters began to recede from campus commons areas on Wednesday, but many parking lots remained underwater, school officials said. Crews were still working to pump water out of the mechanical rooms or crawl spaces of several buildings.

Purdue University Calumet held classes on its Hammond campus Thursday, but warned students to allow plenty of time to get to campus because travel remains slow in the area.

Preliminary damage assessments were being conducted in Lake County, where Homeland Security said about 500 homes were reported as severely damaged.

One home in Munster exploded Wednesday, damaging several others nearby. The area had previously been evacuated and the homes were empty.

The cause of the explosion was not immediately clear, but Town Manager Thomas DeGiulio said gas continued to flow to some houses because crews were struggling to cut gas to all homes in the flooded area.

"They can't find the meters because they're so deep underwater," DeGiulio said.

"This only reinforces why we don't want people going back into these houses."

Neighborhood resident Mark Steinken said he felt sick when he heard the explosion.

"This has been one misery after the other," he said.

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Indiana to Reimburse Toll Road Operators

By Peter Ambrose

Story Published: Sep 22, 2008 at 6:53 AM EDT

Story Updated: Sep 22, 2008 at 6:53 AM EDT

MUNSTER, Ind. (AP) - Indiana will reimburse the Indiana Toll Road's private operator for temporarily waiving fees along the tollway to alleviate traffic congestion during recent flood-related highway closures.

A spokeswoman for Gov. Mitch Daniels says the governor's office doesn't know yet how much it will cost the state to reimburse Macquarie-Cintra for the lost tolls.

The funds will come from the \$3.8 billion the state got from the foreign consortium for the 75-year lease agreement to operate and profit from the toll road.

The tolls were temporarily suspended Tuesday on a 25-mile section from Portage to the Indiana-Illinois state line after Interstate 80/94 was closed by flooding.

A portion of Interstate 65 was also closed.

The tolls went back into effect Thursday, the same day the freeways reopened.

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Daniels asks for federal aid for flood victims

BY

VANESSA

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219.933.3241 | Sunday, September 21, 2008

Gov. Mitch Daniels on Saturday sent a letter to President Bush, formally requesting federal individual assistance for flood victims in Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties.

In his letter, Daniels put the initial damage expenditure estimate for individual assistance at just shy of \$19.2 million. The figure doesn't list any public assistance costs, which includes debris removal, roads and bridges, utilities and emergency protective measures.

Flood-ravaged Munster hasn't even begun to calculate the hours of overtime and extra costs associated with the flood, Munster Town Manager Tom DeGiulio said.

Once the residents are helped, public assistance will be requested for the municipality and first responders, he said.

Since Tuesday, Munster officials have been working with representatives from the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide information on Munster's damage, he said.

U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky, D-Ind., and the entire Indiana Congressional Delegation issued a letter to Bush on Saturday, supporting Daniels' request for a major disaster declaration for Indiana. The letter asks the president to fulfill the request as quickly as possible.

There is no official process to expedite the request. But, Visclosky has spent time in flooded parts of Northwest Indiana and doesn't want the president to delay, Visclosky spokesman Jacob Ritvo said.

"If this isn't an emergency disaster area, I don't know what is," Munster Town Council President Helen Brown said. "I've lived here 30 years. I've never seen anything close to this."

Brown joined building and electrical inspectors who went door-to-door Saturday in the 8000 block of Madison Avenue, continuing cursory home inspections. A green tag meant the family could return and live in their home, but a red tag meant the utilities are cut until needed repairs are complete.

People were covered in mud from head to toe, and debris was piled high in yards and parkways, Brown said.

Daniels' request for individual assistance programs includes disaster housing, disaster unemployment assistance and crisis counseling.

Some people lost their homes, and others lost irreplaceable heirlooms and photo albums, DeGiulio said.

"It's literally impossible for families and individuals to go back to what was," he said. "That's where you get the crisis counseling. A piece of you is gone, and now you've got to recover."

DeGiulio said he told Daniels last week that the same people affected by the flooding were affected by

the powerful August storm. People are suffering from "disaster fatigue," he said.

"You've got residents who haven't even been able to recover from the August storm," DeGiulio said.

Now, they're dealing with a flood that destroyed houses or filled basements with water, which leads to mold problems and the need to replace furnaces and hot water heaters. Cars were ruined, and school supplies were destroyed.

People lost things that reminded them of their family history.

"Those are the tragedies," DeGiulio said. "You can get a new stove." WHERE THINGS STAND:

- At 4:30 a.m. Saturday, the Little Calumet River dropped below the 12-foot flood stage level when it was measured at 11.97 feet
- Munster officials ask that people move their cars off the streets today in the flood-affected area east of Columbia Avenue to Hawthorne Drive so heavy equipment can fit through the streets and pick up debris
- Re-entry is expected to finish today on the west side of Munster
- Home safety inspections continue
- If President Bush declares Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties federal disaster areas, FEMA will establish locations where people can get assistance
- The town of Munster is waiving permit fees for flood-related repairs, effective until at least March, and is considering tax abatements

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FEMA may pay for IN storm damage

Posted: Sep 19, 2008 10:06 PM EDT

Updated: Sep 20, 2008 12:14 AM EDT

By Brandon Bartlett - [bio](#) | [email](#)

Posted by Melissa Greathouse - [email](#)

If you had damage from Sunday's wind storm, Homeland Security wants to help. One phone call could start the process to pay for repairs and losses.

Right now Indiana residents aren't receiving any federal assistance, but 14 News has learned that could change if enough people report damage to a new hotline.

"I'm urging people to make this call right away," said Sherman Greer, Vanderburgh County EMA Director.

A simple phone call could help those in Indiana recover losses from Sunday's wind storm. The Indiana Department of Homeland Security has set up a toll-free number for residents to call. The damage information will then be passed on to FEMA, which decides if the losses warrant federal assistance.

"Even if you have insurance, you can still make the call because your insurance may not cover everything that you lost," Greer said.

When you call, you'll be asked to provide your name, address, phone number, and what type of damage you have. Greer says, "Report everything. If they don't need it, they'll tell you they don't need it at that time. Don't think, well, this is not that important. Report it."

"We've had some people calling asking if we can replace their food and when you're talking about 30,000 that were without power, we can't afford to replace everyone's food," said Emily Zander with the Evansville Red Cross.

State officials held a conference call Friday morning about the food issue. If your electricity was out and you lost food, call and report it. The more reports, the better chance of getting federal assistance.

"There is a magic number for the State of Indiana and I really don't know what that number is, but it's based upon the population per capita for the state," said Greer.

Greer says agencies are having a harder time pinpointing who has damage because unlike a tornado, Sunday's winds from Ike were more widespread. That's why, this time it's up to you to call and report any damage.

The number to call if you have damage is 1-888-335-9490. The hotline will be open this weekend, but only between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The Indiana Department of Homeland

Security" is running this hotline, not FEMA.

You're urged to call as soon as possible.

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Thousands in Indiana still without electricity

Also, interstate routes to Chicago now reopened.

Rush-hour commuters in northwestern Indiana crowded the newly reopened main route to Chicago on Friday for the first time in five days, and downstate utility crews made progress restoring power to homes and businesses darkened by last weekend's storms.

Indiana highway crews reopened Interstate 80/94 to traffic Thursday night after four days of work to pump away water that had swamped the highway's lanes. Lanes of Interstate 65 northbound also reopened Thursday, restoring normal traffic flow to the region.

In the state's southern counties, Duke Energy, Vectren and rural power companies reported Friday that they had restored power to all but about 36,000 homes and businesses that lost power when winds up to 80 mph from the remnants of Hurricane Ike raked the state.

Those storms killed seven people in Indiana.

On Friday, state officials reported another death in northwestern Indiana's Jasper County, but the county sheriff said a crash that killed an 18-year-old woman found dead in her car in a water-filled ditch was not caused by flooding.

Duke Energy said Friday that it was focused on restoring power in southern Indiana's Crawford County and sent 290 line workers to the area in hopes of restoring service by today.

About 26,000 customers had no power in Clarksville, Connersville, Corydon and Madison, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security said.

Some customers of Vectren and rural electric providers were also out of power.

Due to lingering widespread power outage in Clark County, local police imposed a curfew in the town of Charlestown.

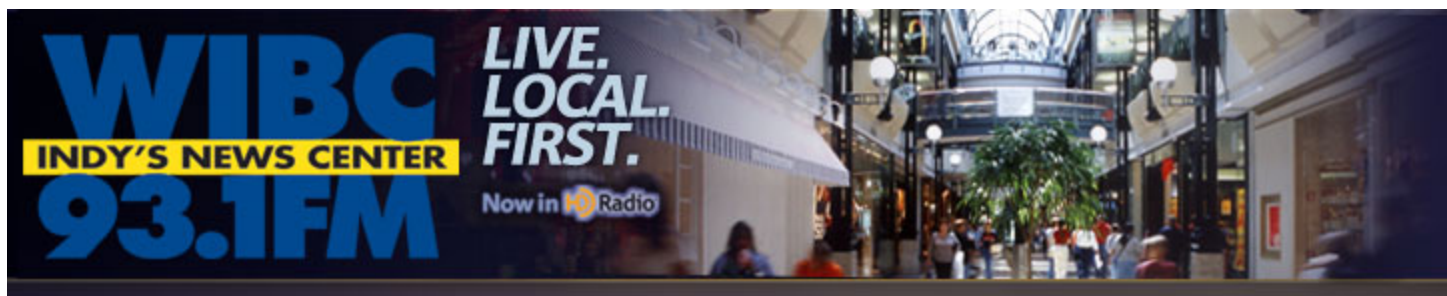
State officials said some rural sections of Floyd County, just north of Louisville, Ky., may not get power restored until Wednesday.

In northwestern Indiana, a levee at Sumava Resorts in Newton County had a minor leak, and sand bags were put in the breached area to resolve the problem, the department said.

An Army Corps of Engineers team will assess the levee, which the state agency said appeared to be saturated but stable Friday.

A team of rescue personnel, including crews from local communities and the Indiana National Guard, traveled lot to lot Thursday in Munster evaluating whether people can return to their homes.

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State Seeks Federal Aid For 3 Disaster Counties

By wibc.com
9/20/2008

A week after severe storms assaulted the state, Gov. Mitch Daniels asked President Bush on Saturday for federal assistance for residents of three northwestern Indiana counties hard-hit by the storms that killed seven people statewide.

In his letter to the president, Daniels requested federal disaster housing, unemployment assistance and U.S. Small Business Administration loans for Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties.

The three counties took the brunt of flooding that began Sept. 12 when the remnants of Hurricane Ike began pounding the state with torrential rains that were followed by high winds.

U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky, D-Ind., and the entire Indiana congressional delegation also sent the president a letter Saturday in support of the governor's request.

"Communities across northwest Indiana are reeling from last weekend's storm and the flooding that it brought," Visclosky said in the letter. "Although the local and state response effort has been exceptional, we will need federal assistance to clean up and recover from the disaster."

The flooding was particularly bad in Lake County, damaging homes and swamping roads from Munster to the west and along the Little Calumet River to the east into Gary, Lake Station and Hobart. Residents in Munster began returning to their homes Thursday.

Flooding from last weekend's storms destroyed or caused major damage to more than 400 primary residences, and damaged more than 1,000 other homes, Daniels said in his letter.

The severe storms also toppled main electric transmission lines, primarily in southeastern Indiana, damaged 13 emergency service radio towers and left two major highways in northwestern Indiana impassable for days.

The governor had declared a state of disaster for Lake and Porter counties Tuesday after surveying waterlogged communities by air and boat. Daniels said he expects to declare a state of disaster in LaPorte County in the coming days.

As of Friday evening, when the Indiana Department of Homeland Security provided its last storm aftermath update, the state's utility crews had restored power to 94 percent of the 519,792 homes and business that had lost power during the storms.

About 31,000 customers of Duke, Vectren, IPL and rural power providers customers remained without power as of Friday's update.

Daniels said in his letter that once damage assessments are complete he anticipates making disaster declarations in LaPorte and 14 other counties that suffered flood or wind damage.

Aside from LaPorte County, Daniels said he expects to make disaster declarations in the following counties: Clark, Crawford, Dearborn, Floyd, Jasper, Jefferson, Jennings, Harrison, Martin, Newton, Perry, Scott, Spencer and Switzerland.

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